



U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
District of Kansas

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Wichita, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced that eight individuals were indicted on Tuesday, September 23, 2003, by a federal grand jury in Wichita, Kansas. Those indicted include:

- ! **Itobore Oshobe**, 25, Pittsburg, Kansas, is charged with one count of possessing child pornography that had been transported in interstate commerce by computer from an unknown time until March 7, 2003, in Crawford County, Kansas.

If convicted, Oshobe faces a maximum of fifteen years in federal prison, without parole, for possessing child pornography. Oshobe is currently in custody and was previously charged on March 7, 2003, with using unauthorized credit cards to obtain electronic and computer equipment that had been ordered using the internet. The case was investigated by the U.S. Secret Service and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Alan Metzger.

- ! **Jorge T. Romero**, 26, and **Ruben Lara-Jimenez**, 20, both of Wichita, Kansas, are each charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 20 pounds of methamphetamine on September 16, 2003; and one count of carrying a firearm during a drug trafficking crime on September 16, 2003, both in Wichita, Kansas.

If convicted, each face a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison, without parole, for possession with the intent to distribute methamphetamine and a maximum of five years for carrying a firearm during a drug trafficking crime. The case was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mona Furst.

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! Mario Miguel Melendez, 26, **Marisela Rivera**, 18, and **Roger W. Peay**, 34, all from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, are charged with one count of possession with the intent to distribute approximately 35 kilograms (approximately 77 pounds) of cocaine; and one count of traveling in interstate commerce from California through Kansas with the intent to promote the unlawful activity of possession with the intent to distribute cocaine, both on September 1, 2003, in Thomas County, Kansas.

If convicted, each face a minimum of ten years and a maximum of life in federal prison, without parole, for possession with the intent to distribute cocaine and a maximum of five years for traveling in interstate commerce to promote an unlawful activity. The case was investigated by the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Mona Furst.

! Jorge Luis Rivera, 22, and **Telesforo Pina**, 43, both from Lincoln, Nebraska, are each charged with possess with the intent to distribute approximately 226 kilograms (approximately 497 pounds) of marijuana on September 16, 2003, in Sedgwick County, Kansas.

If convicted, each face a minimum of five years and a maximum of forty years in federal prison without parole. The case was investigated by the Kansas Highway Patrol and the Drug Enforcement Administration and is being prosecuted by Special Assistant U.S. Attorney David Smith.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The Indictments filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.